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13/D 4-2-02 NU ENTENDED

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – GROUP 1641

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yasuo Yamao, et al.

Serial No.: 09/511,824

Filed: February 24, 2000

For: IMMUNOASSAY METHOD FOR

LYSED WHOLE BLOOD

Examiner: G. Gabel

Group Art Unit: 1641

January 22, 2002

Irvine, California 92614

RULE 116 AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box AF

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 24, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

4/16/02)

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 9 as follows:

9. (Thrice Amended) An immunoassay method of quantifying a predetermined antigen

in a sample of whole blood, comprising the steps of:

providing a sample of the whole blood;

adding a hemolysis reagent to the sample of the whole blood to hemolyse the

blood corpuscles;

Price and Gess

Attorneys at Law 2100 S.E. Main St., #250 Irvine, California 92614 FAX RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

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OFFICIAL

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USPTO, Group 1641

PRICE and GESS

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